

REMARKS

Claims 1-13 are amended, and new claims 14-16 are added. Claims 1-16 are pending.

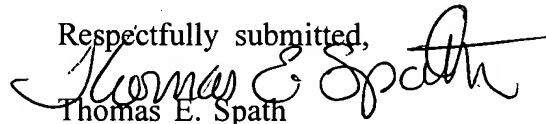
New claims 14-16 are based on the international application as originally filed, so no new matter has been added.

The pending claims in the international application are amended to adopt idiomatic English usage, to clarify the language and to conform to U.S. patent claim formatting.

Accordingly, entry and approval of the present preliminary amendment and prompt examination of all pending claims are respectfully requested.

In case of any deficiencies in fees occasioned by submission of the present amendment, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge such deficiencies in fees to Deposit Account Number 01-0035.

Respectfully submitted,



Thomas E. Spath

Reg. No. 25,928

Attorney for applicant

ABELMAN, FRAYNE & SCHWAB
150 East 42nd Street
New York, NY 10017-5612
(212) 949-9022